

AN ANNOTATED LIST OF BIRDS COLLECTED IN THE
VICINITY OF LA GUAIRA, VENEZUELA.

By WIRT ROBINSON,

Captain, U. S. Army,

and

CHARLES W. RICHMOND,

Assistant Curator of Birds.

The following list embraces two collections made by Captain Robinson, one in the summer of 1895¹ and the other in the summer of 1900, together with a few specimens collected by Mr. Marcus W. Lyon, jr., who accompanied Captain Robinson on his second trip. In this list the identifications, descriptions of new species, and critical notes are by Dr. Richmond and the field notes by Captain Robinson.

For detailed information relating to the second trip, the localities visited, etc., the reader is referred to the introductory remarks in the paper on the mammals, pages 135 to 162 of this volume.

Family TINAMIDÆ.

1. CRYPTURUS SOUI (Hermann).

PILEATED TINAMOU.

Local name: Panchita.

Three were obtained at San Julián, where they were found in the brush on the lower hills. A female taken August 8 contained an egg nearly ready for exclusion, the shell being partly formed, although still soft and not pigmented. Its dimensions were 40 by 30 mm. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ by $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches). There was in the ovaries a second egg the size of a cherry. The natives stated that it lays but two eggs. Its flesh is white and tender. Irides light brown; tarsi olive.

Another and considerably larger species of tinamou was said to be found at San Julián.

¹ For details of this trip, see An Annotated List of Birds Observed in Margarita Island and at Gnanta and La Guaira, Venezuela, by Wirt Robinson, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XVIII (1895), pp. 649-685.

Family LARIDÆ.

2. LARUS ATRICILLA (Linnæus).

LAUGHING GULL.

Small flocks of 6 or 8 seen along the beaches at La Guaira.

Family PELECANIDÆ.

3. PELECANUS OCCIDENTALIS (Linnæus).

BROWN PELICAN.

A good many seen near La Guaira and around a mangrove swamp at San Julián.

Family FREGATIDÆ.

4. FREGATA AQUILA (Linnæus).

MAN-O'-WAR BIRD.

Common in the vicinity of La Guaira.

Family ARDEIDÆ.

5. TIGRISOMA SALMONI Sclater and Salvin.

SALMON'S TIGER BITTERN.

Mr. Lyon secured a specimen at Macuto on August 10. It was young, the neck feathers showing still the characteristic yellow filamentous tipplings.

Dr. Sharpe has placed *T. cabanisi* of Central America in a new genus, *Heterocnus*, on account of its naked throat. However, in both his original diagnosis¹ and his key² he has reversed the actual conditions, making *Heterocnus* the form with the throat feathered on the median line, and *Tigrisoma* the naked-throated one.

Family SCOLOPACIDÆ.

6. TRINGA MINUTILLA Vieillot.

LEAST SANDPIPER.

A specimen was found dead by a puddle in the road near Macuto on August 10. It was greatly emaciated. Tarsi greenish yellow.

7. EREUNETES PUSILLUS (Linnæus).

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER.

Two specimens were given to Mr. Lyon at Macuto on August 10 by a boy who had snared them on the beach. Tarsi dark green.

¹ Bull. Brit. Orn. Club, V, 1895, p. xiv.

² Cat. Birds Brit. Mus., XXVI, 1898, p. 59.

8. ACTITIS MACULARIA (Linnæus).

SPOTTED SANDPIPER.

Mr. Lyon obtained a female at Macuto August 4.

Family CRACIDÆ.

9. CRAX DAUBENTONI Gray.

DAUBENTON'S CURASSOW.

Local name: Pauxi.

None of these were seen in a wild state, but three were purchased at La Guaira and brought back to the Zoological Park in Washington. In two of these the beak was solid black, but the third had the base clear light yellow. They were said to be quite common about 5 miles east of San Julián. They have the habit of erecting and throwing forward their fine, recurved crest. In captivity they are a much quieter bird than the guacharaca, their principal note being a long, descending whistle, almost exactly like the sound made when the air brakes on a train are released.

While at San Julián the natives several times reported that they had seen some "camates," a bird described as midway in size between a pauxi and a guacharaca.

10. ORTALIS RUFICAUDA Jardine.

GUACHARACA.

A few very shy individuals were seen up the ravine east of La Guaira. At San Julián they were plentiful on the wooded slopes around the valley. Eight were secured here, of which five were preserved, and in addition six of various ages were purchased and brought back alive. At San Julián they uttered their characteristic noisy cries at daybreak and at sunset. They usually go in pairs. When they are approached they keep up an incessant call of alarm, yet all the time conceal themselves in the tree tops with great cunning, and it is not at all easy to get within range.

It is difficult to convey an idea of the resonant, vibrant, and trumpet-like quality of their notes. The tone is somewhat like that of a guinea-fowl, but much more voluminous. The call note is uttered by the male, who is aided by a peculiar development of the windpipe. This, before passing into the thorax, runs down between the skin and flesh of the breast to the lower end of the sternum, thence back to the neck.

As far as was observed they kept strictly to the branches of the trees. The stomachs of those killed were filled with the buds and blossoms of a small but very pretty white and yellow passion flower. They also feed on plantains and other fruit. They are much hunted

for food, their flesh being white and of fine flavor. When captured young they are easily domesticated, and associate freely with chickens. They are continually erecting and throwing forward their frontal crest. They have under the throat two oblong bare spots. These are red in life, and on hot days, when the birds are panting, hang down like wattles. The beak and tarsi are blue, and skin of face dark blue.

Family COLUMBIDÆ.

11. COLUMBA PLUMBEA Vieillot.

WINE-COLORED PIGEON.

Local name: Fulta poco, from the fancied resemblance of its call of four notes to those words.

One specimen, a female, was obtained at San Julián on August 3. It differs from the other doves and pigeons seen at that place in its note, which is a whistle and not a coo, and in the color of its irides, which are light grayish blue, instead of reddish yellow. Its flesh is said to have an unpleasant, bitter taste.

Tarsi pink, lids red.

12. LEPTOTILA INSULARIS Richmond.

MARGARITAN DOVE.

Local name: Paloma, i. e., dove.

Abundant. This is the common object of pursuit of the gunners, and numbers are caught by the children in coop traps with figure-four triggers and in snares of horse hair. Many fledglings were seen at San Julián. They differ very markedly in color from the adults, being much darker and mottled, the back bronzy-green and purple in places.

Feet purplish in the young. Adults have the irides yellow, feet reddish.

Three specimens were secured, which are to be referred to the Margaritan form, although they average a trifle larger in wing measurements.

Family PERISTERIDÆ.

13. SCARDAFELLA RIDGWAYI Richmond.

RIDGWAY'S SCALED DOVE.

A few were seen in the dry cactus region along the coast at the mouth of the San Julián Valley. Their notes give them the name "potoco." One specimen, a male, was shot July 11.

This is the same as the Margaritan form. Those who do not wish to recognize this bird as different from that of Brazil will still have to use the name *ridgwayi*, as the term *squamosa* is preoccupied.

14. COLUMBIGALLINA PASSERINA¹ (Linnæus).

GROUND DOVE.

Local name: Tortola, i. e., turtle dove.

Very abundant. They were nesting in July and August and a number of nests were seen with the usual complement of two eggs. The nests are not placed in trees as a rule but rather upon brush heaps, in tussocks of coarse grass, on bowlders, or on fallen logs. Nests found at San Julián on July 30 and July 31, both on prostrate logs, contained pipped eggs. A pair built on the stump of a papaya tree within 20 feet of the door of our hut and hatched early in August. The young, naked at first, soon assumed a coat of sulphur-yellow down, which with their purplish skin made them unpleasant looking objects.

15. GEOTRYGON VENEZUELENSIS Salvadori.

VENEZUELAN QUAIL DOVE.

Local name: Paloma de monte, i. e., wood dove.

The peculiar booming coo of this dove was occasionally heard at San Julián, but only one specimen was secured, an immature female. Irides bluish, feet purplish.

This specimen is quite young, but without much doubt is of the form called *venezuelensis* by Salvadori.

Family CATHARTIDÆ.

16. CATHARTES AURA (Linnæus).

TURKEY VULTURE.

Not very common. Only a few seen.

17. CATHARISTA URUBU (Vieillot).

BLACK VULTURE.

Very abundant, especially around the slaughter pens east of La Guaira.

Family BUTEONIDÆ.

18. BUTEO ABBREVIATUS Cabanis.

ZONE-TAILED HAWK.

The only specimen obtained, a female, was brought in alive at La Guaira on August 12 by a native, who, discovering it roosting the night before, had crippled it with a stone. Irides brown, cere and tarsi yellow. Several were seen near Macuto.

¹ Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XVIII, 1895, p. 659.

19. MICRASTUR MELANOLEUCUS (Vieillot).

BLACK AND WHITE MICRASTUR.

One specimen, a male, secured at San Julián on July 28. It was in full molt, changing above from a brown and rufous to a black and white plumage. Its stomach contained a sparrow (*Arremonops*). Cere greenish, irides brown, tarsi yellow.

20. RUPORNIS MAGNIROSTRIS (Gmelin).

LARGE-BILLED RUPORNIS.

This noisy hawk was common in the dryer foothills at La Guaira and at San Julián. A female shot on July 19 had its stomach filled with a mass of grasshoppers, crickets, roaches, and other insects, and parts of several scorpions. Its cere, lids, irides, base of lower mandible, and tarsi were yellow. A male shot July 26 had orange cere and tarsi. Its stomach was filled with a mass of insects and with parts of some small striped lizards. The diet of grasshoppers gives to these birds a characteristic odor which clings to their skins for some time after they have been cured.

21. LEUCOPTERNIS ALBICOLLIS (Latham).

WHITE HAWK.

Several of these fine hawks were seen at San Julián, but only one was obtained, a female taken July 16. Its stomach contained a varied assortment—pieces of a snake, crabs, beetles, and grasshoppers. On July 31 one was seen flying around its nest, a bulky mass of sticks in the top of an immense thorny-trunked tree.

Irides light brown, tarsi yellow.

Family FALCONIDÆ.

22. GAMPSONYX SWAINSONI Vigors.

SWAINSON'S PEARL KITE.

At San Julián about sunset on July 29 this small hawk, which was at first taken for a gray kingbird, was seen to light in the dead top of a small tree near the road. On being shot it started off as if untouched, but after going some 30 yards spread its wings and settled gently to the earth, where it was found dead. Upon picking it up I was at once struck by its coloration, the absence of bars or stripes on its plumage, the glistening white under surface of its wings, its relatively heavy feet with the tarsi feathered halfway to the toes, the heron-like powder down patches on its hips, and its crimson irides. Its cere was green, tarsi yellow. This was the only one seen, although

the natives stated that it was not rare. It was a female and must have been an industrious hunter, as its stomach contained no less than 5 of the common small striped lizards (*Cnemidophorus*).

Dr. Sharpe¹ quotes *Chondrohierax rufifrons* Lesson (first described as *Dadalion rufifrons* Lesson) as a synonym of this species. This name is, however, referable to *Falco uncinatus* Temminck, which species should properly be called *Chondrohierax uncinatus*, as *Regerlinus* Kaup, 1845, is antedated by *Chondrohierax* Lesson, 1843.

23. FALCO ALBOGULARIS Daudin.

WHITE-THROATED BAT FALCON.

A few of these beautiful little falcons were seen around San Julián. They were all in the tops of dead trees high up on the mountain sides. A female was shot on July 19 whose stomach contained fragments of a beetle and the skull and other parts of a *Molossus obscurus*, one of the swiftest flying bats. Irides brown, lids, cere, and tarsi yellow. The striking effect of the clear dark eyes with the brilliant gamboge lids against a background of dark plumage is lost in the stuffed skin.

Family BUBONIDÆ.

24. MEGASCOPS BRASILIANUS (Gmelin).

BRAZILIAN SCREECH OWL.

A pair of screech owls were obtained at San Julián on July 26. They were in poor plumage. Irides yellow.

Other owls were seen but not secured, among them a small owl, probably *Glaucidium*, and a very large owl seen flying at dusk.

Family PSITTACIDÆ.

Parrots of the genera *Ara*, *Amazona*, *Conurus*, and *Psittacula* were seen at San Julián but none were secured.

Family CUCULIDÆ.

25. CROTOPHAGA ANI Linnæus.

ANI.

Local name: Garrapatero, i. e., tick-eater, from its alleged habit of eating the ticks on cattle.

Common in open land about La Guaira and at San Julián. Usually seen in small bands of six to a dozen individuals, and frequently seen walking about almost under the feet of grazing cattle.

¹British Museum Catalogue of Birds, 1, p. 340.

26. *PIAYA CAYANA THERMOPHILA* (Sclater).

SQUIRREL CUCKOO.

Local name: Rabo de ardito, i. e., squirrel tail.

A few seen at La Guaira. Abundant at San Julián. The stomachs of all killed were packed to distension with insects, mainly caterpillars. Beak and lids yellowish green, tarsi bluish, irides red, inside of mouth black.

27. *COCCYZUS MELANOCORYPHUS* Vieillot.

DARK-HEADED CUCKOO.

One specimen obtained at La Guaira, June 25, 1895.

Family RAMPHASTIDÆ.

28. *AULACORHAMPHUS ERYTHROGNATHUS* Gould.

RED-BILLED GREEN TOUCAN.

Local name: Pico de frasco, i. e., bottle beak.

Fairly common at San Julián. Tarsi olive, irides brown.

Toucans of the genus *Ramphastos* are known to the natives at San Julián, who call them "Dios te dé."

Family TROGONIDÆ.

29. *TROGON COLLARIS* Vieillot.

COLLARED TROGON.

Local name: Pavita, i. e., little peacock.

Common at San Julián, and easily found by its clear, loud note. Beak yellow, lids red. The beak of the female is shaded with brownish.

Family GALBULIDÆ.

30. *GALBULA RUFICAUDA* Cuvier.

RUFIOUS-TAILED JACAMAR.

Common at La Guaira and at San Julián. They nest in holes like bank swallows. The natives regard it as a large-sized humming bird and call it "tocuso de montaña," mountain humming bird.

Family ALCEDINIDÆ.

31. *CERYLE AMERICANA* (Gmelin).

SMALLEST GREEN KINGFISHER.

Local name: Martín pescador.

Common along the small streams at La Guaira, Macuto, and San Julián.

Family PICIDÆ.

32. CHLORONERPES RUBIGINOSUS (Swainson).

SWAINSON'S GREEN WOODPECKER.

Two were shot as they were feeding on alligator pears in the coffee plantation at San Julián. Others were seen.

33. MELANERPES SUBELEGANS (Bonaparte).

BONAPARTE'S WOODPECKER.

Abundant. A pair had their nest in the top of a dead papaya tree in front of the hut at San Julián.

34. CAMPEPHILUS MALHERBII Gray.

MALHERBE'S IVORY-BILLED WOODPECKER.

Local name: *Carpintero*, i. e., *carpenter*, the general name for all woodpeckers.

Five or six were seen at San Julián, but only one, a female, secured. They were usually seen in lofty dead trees around the edges of mountain clearings. They have a loud, discordant note. Irides yellow, tarsi bluish green, soles of feet yellow.

A piculet (*Picumnus?*) was seen excavating its nest in a dead branch at Cueurutí on July 7, and others were seen at San Julián.

Family CAPRIMULGIDÆ.

35. ANTROSTOMUS RUFUS (Boddaert).

RUFOUS WHIP-POOR-WILL.

One specimen, a female, secured at San Julián. Other species of goat-suckers were seen.

Family TROCHILIDÆ.

36. GLAUCIS HIRSUTUS (Gmelin).

HAIRY HERMIT.

Quite common at La Guaira and at San Julián. Several nests were seen, all of which were woven to the under side of a tatter at the extreme tip of a banana leaf. A nest taken at La Guaira, on July 4, contained 2 fresh eggs. Another at San Julián, on July 11, contained 2 young, several days old. On July 27 a female was seen building. At San Julián an individual largely blotched with white on the back and rump was seen several times.

Mandible bright yellow, not flesh color as stated by Elliot.

37. DOLEROMYA FALLAX (Bourcier).

BUFF-BREASTED HUMMING BIRD.

One specimen taken at San Julián in an extensive cactus thicket on the dry lowlands. I do not think that this species is ever found outside of such localities.

The characters given for the Margaritan form (of which we have fifteen or more examples) are perfectly good, and *pallida* is readily to be distinguished from *fallax*.

38. PHÆTHORNIS AUGUSTI (Bourcier).

SALLÉ'S HERMIT.

Seen in the ravines at La Guaira, at San Julián, and at Cucurutí. On July 24 at San Julián, in search of bats, I crept on hands and knees into a sort of cave made by an immense slab of stone leaning against another. At some distance from the entrance an object dangling from the rocky roof brushed against my head. Striking a match to examine it, I was surprised to find it the nest of a humming bird. The suspending cord, composed of twined spider's webs, was fastened to a projecting splinter of stone, and the nest hung almost a foot below. To keep it upright and to balance the weight of the bird, quite a mass of material was woven below and on the opposite side of the cord. It contained two partly incubated eggs. The parent was secured. A few days later a second nest, similarly situated in a cave and containing a newly hatched young, was found.

Feet flesh color and lower mandible vermilion, not flesh color as stated by Elliot.

The nest of a species of *Phæthornis*, probably *P. superciliosus*, was found at La Guaira on July 5. It was woven to the under side of a leaf. The bird was shot, but fell in a tangle of vines and was lost.

39. PYGMORNIS LONGUEMAREI (Lesson).

LONGUEMARE'S PIGMY HERMIT.

Common at San Julián. Basal half of mandible bright yellow, not flesh color.

40. HYPUROPTILA BUFFONI (Lesson).

BUFFON'S PLUMETEER.

Common at La Guaira and at San Julián.

41. CHRYSOLAMPIS MOSCHITUS (Linnæus).

RUBY and TOPAZ HUMMING BIRD.

One seen at Cucurutí July 7.

42. *AMIZILIS FELICIÆ* (Lesson).

FELICIA'S HUMMING BIRD.

Abundant at La Guaira and at San Julián. A nest saddled on a branch and containing one egg was found at La Guaira on July 4. On July 5 a female of this species was seen to make, in the absence of its owner, several visits to the nest of a *Phaethon's* and each time rob it of a portion of its lining.

43. *CHLOROSTILBON CARIBBÆA* Lawrence.

ATALA'S EMERALD.

Abundant in the flat coast region.

Family PIPRIDÆ.

44. *CHIROXIPHIA LANCEOLATA* (Wagler).

LANCE-TAILED MANAKIN.

Fairly common in the well wooded and shaded ravines at La Guaira and at San Julián. A nest with 2 eggs was taken at La Guaira on July 25, 1895.

Family TYRANNIDÆ.

45. *MUSCIVORA TYRANNUS* (Linnæus).

FORK-TAILED FLYCATCHER.

A number seen at San Julián.

46. *TYRANNUS DOMINICENSIS* (Gmelin).

GRAY KING BIRD.

Abundant at San Julián.

47. *PITANGUS DERBIANUS RUFIPENNIS* (Lafresnaye).

RUFOUS-WINGED DERBY FLYCATCHER.

One male obtained at San Julián July 16. Others seen.

48. *LEPTOPOGON SUPERCILIARIS* Cabanis.

WHITE-BROWED FLYCATCHER.

One specimen taken at San Julián on August 5. Tarsi blue.

Has been previously recorded from Venezuela on one occasion, by Chapman and Phelps.¹

49. *POGONOTRICCUS* sp.

An immature specimen taken at La Guaira in 1895.²

¹ Auk., XIV, 1897, p. 369.

² Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XVIII, 1895, p. 684.

50. *PLATYRHYNCHUS MYSTACEUS INSULARIS* (Allen).

TOBAGO BROAD-BILLED FLYCATCHER.

One taken at La Guaira in 1895.¹51. *TODIROSTRUM CINEREUM* (Linnæus).

BLACK-CROWNED TODY FLYCATCHER.

Common.

Family FURNARIIDÆ.

52. *SYNALLAXIS STRIATIPLECTUS* Chapman.

STREAKED-BREASTED SPINETAIL.

One obtained and several seen at San Julián, August 5.

Family DENDROCOLAPTIDÆ.

53. *SITTASOMUS PHELPSI* Chapman.

PHELPS'S CREEPER.

One female taken at San Julián, July 18.

54. *DENDROPLEX PICIROSTRIS* (Lafresnaye).

WHITE-THROATED TREE CREEPER.

A number seen at San Julián. Tarsi greenish.

Family FORMICARIIDÆ.

55. *THAMNOPHILUS DOLIATUS* (Linnæus).

BARRED ANT SHRIKE.

Abundant at La Guaira and at San Julián.

56. *THAMNOPHILUS MELANONOTUS* Sclater.

BLACK-BACKED ANT SHRIKE.

One specimen taken at La Guaira, July 5.

57. *FORMICIVORA INTERMEDIA* Cabanis.

INTERMEDIATE ANT WREN.

Abundant in the scrub.

58. *GRALLARIA* sp.

A specimen, apparently a member of this genus, was shot at San Julián July 19, but was too badly injured to be preserved.

¹Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XVIII, 1895, p. 684.

Family CORVIDÆ.

59. XANTHOURA CÆRULEOCEPHALA (Dubois).

BLUE-HEADED GREEN JAY.

Local name: Querre querre.

Abundant at San Julián. Found in small flocks in the coffee plantations. Many of their notes are like those of our blue jay.

Family ICTERIDÆ.

60. OSTINOPS DECUMANUS (Pallas).

COMMON OROPÉNDOLA.

Local name: Conoto.

Seen at Cucurutí and in large flocks at San Julián. The variation in size of the individuals of a flock is remarkable. They have a strong, disagreeable odor, which persists for some time in the stuffed skin.

61. OSTINOPS OLEAGINEUS Sclater.

VENEZUELAN GREEN OROPÉNDOLA.

Local name: Conoto.

Large straggling flocks were seen in the coffee plantations at San Julián. They have the same strong smell and vary in size as do the preceding. They have a loud, yelping note, and an alarm note like the cackle of a startled hen. Both species were in very poor plumage.

Feet green, beak light greenish-white.

62. ICTERUS AURICAPILLUS Cassin.

GOLDEN-CROWNED ORIOLE.

Local name: Gonzalito.

Abundant.

Family FRINGILLIDÆ.

63. ARREMONOPS VENEZUELENSIS Ridgway.

VENEZUELAN GROUND-SPARROW.

Local name: Rayadito.

Abundant. Eight specimens were taken in traps baited with bananas and set for small mammals.

64. VOLATINIA JACARINI SPLENDENS (Vieillot).

GLOSSY GRASSQUIT.

Abundant.

65. EUETHEIA OMISSA (Jardine).

VENEZUELAN GRASSQUIT.

Abundant.

Family TANAGRIDÆ.

66. TANAGRA GLAUCOCOLPA (Cabanis).

VENEZUELAN BLUE TANAGER.

The blue tanagers seen were probably of this form. They were abundant.

67. PIRANGA ARDENS Sclater.

BLACK-LORED SCARLET TANAGER.

Local name: Cardinal de montaña, mountain cardinal.

A male taken at San Julián August 3, and several others seen the same day.

68. TACHYPHONUS MELALEUCUS (Sparman).

BLACK AND WHITE TANAGER.

Common.

69. SALTATOR OLIVASCENS Cabanis.

GREY-BREASTED SALTATOR.

A few seen at San Julián, where one was shot as it fed on a ripe papaya fruit.

Family CEREBIDÆ.

70. CHLOROPHANES SPIZA (Linnæus).

GREEN HONEY CREEPER.

One specimen in full molt taken at San Julián July 26. Irides reddish, tarsi dark green, lower mandible and base of upper yellow.

71. CYANERPES CYANEA EXIMIA (Cabanis).

VENEZUELAN GUITGIT.

Common in the forests at San Julián.

72. CEREBA LUTEOLA Cabanis.

VENEZUELAN HONEY CREEPER.

Abundant in the dry coast region.

Family HIRUNDINIDÆ.

73. PROGNE CHALYBEA (Gmelin).

STEELY-BACKED MARTIN.

Very abundant in La Guaira, where they nested in the crevices along the eaves of the tiled roofs.

74. *ATTICORA CYANOLEUCA* (Vieillot).

BLUE AND WHITE SWALLOW.

Very abundant in and around La Guaira.

Family VIREONIDÆ.

75. *VIREO CHIVI AGILIS* (Lichtenstein).

AGILE VIREO.

Common.

76. *HYLOPHILUS AURANTIIFRONS* Lawrence.

GOLDEN-FRONTED HYLOPHILUS.

One specimen taken at San Julián August 5. Tarsi very pale blue, lower mandible yellowish flesh.

Family MNIOTILTIDÆ.

77. *BASILEUTERUS FLAVEOLUS* Baird.

YELLOW GROUND WARBLER.

One specimen obtained at La Guaira, where it flitted about in the bushes close to the ground much like a redstart, apparently somewhat north of its previously known range.

Family TROGLODYTIDÆ.

78. *RHODINOCICHLA ROSEA* (Lesson).

ROSE-BREADED WREN.

Local name: Sarta sarta.

Seen at La Guaira and San Julián. It has a wonderfully loud and clear song. It is frequently seen on the ground scratching among the fallen leaves. One specimen, a male, obtained.

This is the true *Furnarius roseus* of Lesson. The Central American bird is quite different and is apparently unmaned.

79. *THRYOTHORUS RUTILUS* Vieillot.

RUFIOUS-BREADED WREN.

One obtained at La Guaira in 1895.

80. *TROGLODYTES RUFULUS* Cabanis.

WHITE-BREADED HOUSE WREN.

Abundant at La Guaira, nesting at the base of the leaf stalks of the cocoa palms.

81. MICROCERCULUS PECTORALIS, new species.

SCRUB WREN.

When at La Guaira on July 25, 1895, I saw walking about in the holes and crannies under a mass of overhanging roots in the ravine east of the town, a curious-looking bird which I recorded in my diary at the time as being like a chocolate-colored, tailless Carolina wren. I had only my insect net and could not secure it. Imagine my surprise when, on July 2, five years later, I saw under a heap of brush, within ten feet of the original spot, another specimen of the same bird. This one I secured. It crept about slowly among the roots and twigs, did not use its wings, and moved more like a mouse than a bird.

This individual does not agree with any of the described species, although it appears to be related to *M. squamulatus* of Selater and Salvin. It is, however, not nearly so white below, and the colors of the upper parts are darker, judging from the plate.¹

It may be described as follows: Type, female adult, No. 175251, U.S.N.M.; La Guaira, July 2, 1900; Wirt Robinson, collector's No. 1451. Above Mars brown, uniform on back, rump, and upper tail-coverts, but feathers of head with slightly darker centers; tail and wing quills clove brown, some of the latter bordered with the color of the back. Wing-coverts like the back, some of the innermost greater coverts with minute russet spots. Throat white, the lower part finely and rather indistinctly barred with grayish brown; sides of head and foreneck drab, feathers of the latter part tipped with wood brown; sides of breast, flanks, under tail-coverts, and abdomen mummy brown, more inclining to Prout's brown on the latter; the flanks and under tail-coverts with more or less indistinct blackish bars; center of the breast, Prout's brown with V-shaped and U-shaped grayish white markings; under wing-coverts wood brown. Bill and feet blackish in the dried skin, basal part of mandible paler. Wing, 57; tail, 20; tarsus, 23; culmen, 19 millimeters.

Family SYLVIIDÆ.

82. POLIOPTILA PLUMBICEPS Lawrence.

LAWRENCE'S GNAT CATCHER.

Common in the scrub of the dry coast lands.

Family TURDIDÆ.

83. ? MERULA FUMIGATA Lichtenstein.

SABIAN THRUSH.

One young bird, obtained at San Julián July 17, agrees more nearly with *M. fumigata* than with any other species.

¹ Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., 1875, pl. vi.